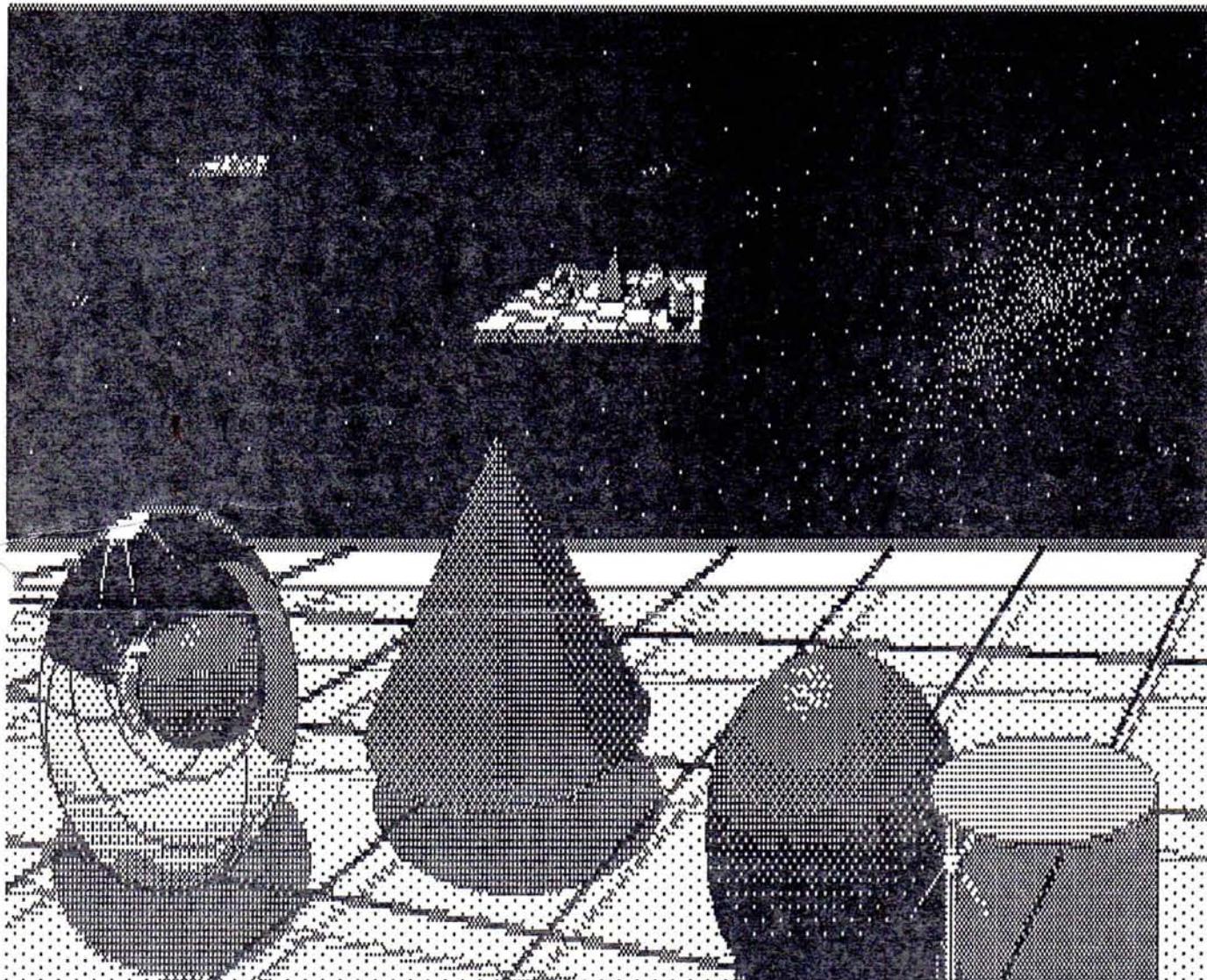


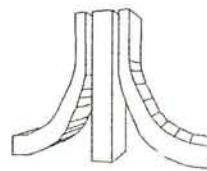
WAUG! Newsletter

Where you discover it's more than just a toy!



WASHTENAW ATARI USERS' GROUP

Volume 1, Number 5



November, 1987

From The Prez...

The feature topic for November's general membership meeting is "Printers/Graphics" and the officers have put together a nice line-up of demonstrations for you. WAUG! is the place to be on November 10 if you ever had any questions about how to make your printer produce something more than letters. Watch for advice on how to use the editor in DAISY DOT, a tutorial on using CUTE LABELS, a smattering of CERTIFICATE MAKER, and a guided tour of PICSWITCH. And, as if that weren't enough, the librarians are busy putting together bundles of disks to complement this fascinating topic.

In the past we have discussed the purchase of some hardware on behalf of the club so that members (and especially officers) would not have to be putting so much wear and tear on their own equipment. Two terrific opportunities have sprung up in the past month which will require a membership vote to spend club funds greater than the officers have authority to approve. With your support, the club will own one Indus GT and one Atari SF354 disk drive by the end of this meeting.

I have received several (many!) complaints about the noise level at the October meeting, and people have suggested to me that I should have asked everyone to be quiet. Here's my perspective on the subject: I watched as my counterpart at another club was chastised all too often for "treating us like children" when he perpetually asked the members to keep their voices down. Frankly I am not in the least bit interested in receiving this kind of treatment.

What I am saying here is that, if the persons seated next to you are disturbing you then please don't look to me to ask them to quiet down. Rather, take it upon yourself to do same. You can bet that I'll do this if people are disturbing me, and I should hope that members will do the same if I am guilty. I believe it will carry more weight coming directly from a member (as opposed to from an officer) with longer lasting results. For those of you who feel it is necessary to speak in a level higher than a whisper, then I encourage you to move your conversation into the hallway so that the persons who really are interested in the topic will not be disturbed. It was rude, to say the least, that Bob Fritz' demonstration in Trouble Shooting had to be undermined by several persons standing less than 5 feet away. I am hoping that this will serve as sufficient reminder to all members to be aware of their own actions, and that common courtesy becomes the norm, not the exception. Enough said.

I would like to remind you all that the December general meeting is "MIDI MAZE Fun Night." Don't forget to see Bob Carlini about \$1 raffle tickets for MIDI MAZE and FLIGHT SIMULATOR II. There will be a tournament, of sorts, and we will need volunteers to bring hardware.



Minute by Minute – October Meeting

The October meeting of the Washtenaw Atari Users Group was held in the School of Education building on the campus of UofM in Room #2228. President Mike Olin called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm and announced that all future meetings would be held at this location until further notice. A reduction in room rental rates is available when the university recognizes WAUG! as a sponsored organization. Any members who have a connection with faculty or staff are encouraged to contact Pattie.

The initial topic of discussion was the proposal to increase the membership renewal rate from \$5 to \$10. Due to the increased cost of room rental and the costs of publishing the Newsletter, it is felt that the \$5 renewal rate would spell disaster for the club in the near future. The members voted and approved the proposal.

There was a discussion of the responsibilities and duties of the office of Secretary which was vacated by Doug Feldman's resignation. The members elected Craig Harvey to this Executive Board position.

Bob Carlini ran a demonstration of the XL program called "Parrot II" (Alpha Systems: the people that bring you all those great books, MagniPrint 2+, Chipmunk, and ComputerEyes) which is a hardware and software system used to "digitize real world sounds and play them back on your computer."

Mike asked the members to decide on an 8-bit software package that would be raffled in the December Fun Night when the MIDI MAZE tournament/raffle is conducted. The members chose Flight Simulator II. Tickets will be sold for \$1 each, available from Bob Carlini, starting now. Tickets for each package will be kept separate, and a drawing will be held after the tournament.

Mike Mitchell, of United Computer, brought the new Mega ST 2 for display. The original intent was to run demos on Librarian Bruce Urbanski's 1040, while running the same demo on the MEGA with the blitter chip activated to show off the speed improvements. There was some difficulty doing this, and finally a demo that was known to work was

loaded and the members were surprised to see an empty white box moving across the screen, quite rapidly!

Mike, along with member Bob Retelle, opened the MEGA case and were surprised to find there were several empty chip sockets near the middle of the motherboard, and no blitter to be found. Since this particular machine was new, and right out of the box as delivered from Atari, it was concluded that a wise purchaser would ask to see proof that the blitter does indeed work before leaving the place of purchase. Bob R. spent several minutes discussing how he and some of his "GENie Friends" had taken a close look at the new MEGAS, and answered questions from the members.

The feature topic of the evening was "Repair & Trouble-Shooting" and member Bob Fritz of C.P. Technology answered questions from members and gave a step-by-step description of the procedure he uses while performing an on-the-spot alignment of an ailing Indus GT disk drive.

The meeting ended with a demonstration of the "8-bit Transformer" for the ST. It was noted that "It works..." but it is rather slow.

The next meeting will be held on November 10. The feature topic will be "Printers/Graphics."

Stash's Corner

MIDI Maze....HO HO HO...yes'r. Too early for Christmas? Never too early for MIDI Maze! What do these two have in common??? Well at the December Christmas meeting it will be MIDI Maze night. Come see and play the big attraction at ALL the Atari shows! Sixteen people who would probably otherwise be friends battle it out as happy faces in simple to complex mazes. A great combination of strategy and reflexes. Or in other words, "Let's bust some face!"

Now let's get ready. WAUG! needs people to bring ST computers and monitors. Looks like as of right now there are six confirmations. We can use up to 17 machines. A MIDI cable is also required, and the club will provide these cables for the machines. If you wish to purchase a cable, they will be for sale after the meeting. Contact me at the November meeting if you can bring an ST. Or use that modem and leave a note on Molin's Den or the Treasure CheST BBS.

Miss this one and you'll be kicking yourself into next year!

Bruce Urbanski

ATARIWRITER-PLUS PRINTER DRIVERS

| | PRO-WRITER | NEC 8023 | SG-10 | PANASONIC KX-P1080 | SMITH-COR D-100 | EPSON FX-80 | EPSON RX-80 | LEGEND 1080 | BMC-BX80 | MANN-TALLY CTI | MANN-TALLY EPS. MX-80 |
|-------------------------|------------|----------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Init. every line | Blank | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | 27 85 0 |
| Line Feed & C/R | 155 | * | * | * | * | * | 10 | * | * | 13 | 141 |
| Underline OFF | 27 89 | * | 27 45 0 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Underline ON | 27 88 | * | 27 45 1 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Backspace | 8 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Elongate OFF | 15 | * | 27 87 0 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Elongate ON | 14 | * | 27 87 1 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Bold OFF | 27 34 | * | 27 70 | * | * | * | 27 72 | 27 72 | * | 27 70 | 27 72 |
| | | | | | | | 27 70 | | | | |
| Bold ON | 27 33 | * | 27 69 | * | * | * | 27 71 | 27 71 | * | 27 69 | 27 71 |
| | | | | | | | 27 69 | | | | |
| UP 1/2 line (Super) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 106 | 27 83 0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | 18 | |
| DOWN 1/2 line (Sub) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 74 18 | 27 83 1 |
| Down 1/2 line & C/R | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 74 18 | - |
| | | | | | | | | | | 13 | |
| Return W/O LF | 13 | 155 | * | * | * | * | - | 13 | * | - | 141 |
| Fonts (1 - 9): | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pica | 27 78 | * | 27 84 27 53 27 72 27 66 1 | 27 80 | * | * | 27 64 | 27 80 | 27 64 | 27 80 | 27 64 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Elite | 27 69 | - | 27 66 2 | 27 77 | * | * | * | * | - | 27 77 | - |
| Compressed ON | 27 81 | * | 27 66 3 | 15 | * | * | * | 27 33 4 | 15 | 27 15 | 27 69 |
| Compressed OFF | - | - | - | 18 | * | * | - | - | 146 | 18 | - |
| Proportional ON | 27 80 | 27 69 | 27 112 1 | - | 27 112 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Proportional OFF | - | - | - | - | 27 112 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Italics ON | - | - | 27 52 | * | * | * | * | 27 82 19 | 27 52 | * | * |
| Italics OFF | - | - | - | 27 53 | * | * | * | - | 27 53 | * | - |
| Near Letter Quality ON | - | - | 27 66 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 120 1 | - |
| Near Letter Quality OFF | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 120 0 | - |
| Superscripts ON | - | - | 27 83 0 | * | - | 27 83 0 | * | - | - | - | - |
| Subscripts ON | - | - | 27 83 1 | * | - | 27 83 1 | * | - | - | - | - |
| Scripts OFF | - | - | 27 04 | * | - | 27 04 | * | - | - | - | - |
| Underline ON | 27 88 | * | 27 45 1 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Underline OFF | 27 89 | * | 27 45 0 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Double Strike | - | - | 27 71 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 71 |
| Reset to Default | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 64 | - | - | - |
| Normal C.S. Select | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 82 10 | - | - | - |

The above is a compilation of Printer Drivers for the Atariwriter+, published in various ATARI CLUB Newsletters during the last few months. Many thanks to:

Bill Lurie, LA-ACE - Prowriter, Legend 1080, and BMC-BX80.

Randy McSorley, PACUS - NEC 8023.

Bill Zinn, ABACUS - SG-10.

Greg Porter, PACUS - Panasonic KX-P1080, SMITH-COR D-100, and Epson FX-80.

Terry Watkins, HACKS - Epson RX-80.

Tom Neitzel, S*xP*xA*xC*xE - NX-10 (Dip Switch 1-8 should be OFF).

Marty Stickle, JAGG - Mannesmann Tally, CTI, and Epson NX-80.

Compiled by:
Ellen L. Lentz - A.C.C.T.

Create Your Own AtariWriter Plus Printer Driver

by Ellen L. Lentz



Reprinted from The Atari Beacon Journal, A.C.C.T. & N.A.C.E, Aug. 87 issue.

There have been several requests during the last few months for a disk containing AtariWriter+ printer drivers for various printers, such as was produced for the original AtariWriter. A compilation of the necessary decimal codes needed for these printer drivers was created and published in the September 1986 issue of the A.C.C.T. Newsletter [Ed: *Atari Computer Club of Toledo, table reprinted on previous page*]. Because of the number of options available on different printers exceeds the number of options available on an AW+ printer driver, I thought perhaps a tutorial on creating your OWN printer driver would be more in order. From this, you can create several printer drivers containing the options needed for a particular printing purpose.

First, what is a printer driver? The authors of major wordprocessing programs recognize that there are no standards for printer control-codes between the different brands of printers. Since they cannot possibly include within their programs control codes for all possibilities, they have imbedded within their programs the capability of accepting the control codes from an external source, a printer driver file. Because these printer drivers are program-specific, a printer driver for one wordprocessing program will not work with any other wordprocessing program.

Also, a printer is usually not designed for a specific computer, so a system of control-codes which can be recognized on various computers is supplied by the printer manufacturers. The basis for this is the decimal codes in the ASCII or ATASCII (Atari ASCII) character sets, which can be found in your computer manual or any good reference manual for your computer. In regular programming, some printers will recognize either the decimal or character set, but for the AW+ printer driver, you must enter the decimal code for each character needed.

AW+ does most of your print formatting for you. It is only the printer-specific commands that need to be supplied. If you look at your Global Format screen, everything except "G - TYPE FONT" is supplied by the program. Blank lines are generated for Top and Bottom Margins, Paragraph and Line Spacing. Blank characters are inserted for Right and Left Margins, Paragraph Indentation and Justification. Page Wait, Page Length and Page Number (if requested), are handled by AW+. If Second Left and Right Margins are set, your text will be formatted in two columns.

Within the body of your text, AW+ will insert the necessary blank lines or spaces for the commands Block Text Right, Center Text and Page Eject. You must specify in your printer driver the printer-control codes for Bold Print, Elongated Print and Underlining, in addition to the fonts available on your printer.

Although the AW+ printer driver accommodates up to 9 fonts, these do not necessarily have to contain control-codes for fonts--they can be any control-codes, or combination of control-codes, which you may wish to initiate at any point in your word-processing. For instance, if you have to turn off a feature before initiating another, you could use one font to turn off all features, then separate fonts to turn them on as needed.

Some features are mutually exclusive. You could not choose both Pica and Elite, for example. However, others are inclusive, such as Pica and Italics. (These can both be chosen in the Global Format by entering first one and then the other.) If you chose Pica and Italics, then wanted Elite, you would get Elite Italics unless you had first turned off Italics.

This is where the individual preference comes in. You should consult your Printer Manual to determine what features are available and which are inclusive or exclusive. There are only 9 fonts available per printer driver, but you can create as many printer drivers as you need for different applications. (A printer driver is only loaded at the first Print request for each session, so to use a different printer driver you must reboot AW+ and choose the new printer driver.) Also, you can use any feature within the body of your text with the CNTR/O decimal code command, even if it is not included in your font commands [for example, CNTR/O 27,69 would turn Bold ON on a Star SG10 printer].

After determining which features you wish to include, you are ready to create your printer driver. This consists of three easy steps:

1. LOAD the Create program.
2. Select each function and enter the decimal code.
3. SAVE the printer driver.

1) To LOAD the Create program you must boot up AW+ while holding down the Select Key. (400/800 users must also put in the Basic Cartridge.) When the title screen is displayed you must press a key to enter the editor. The LOAD and SAVE commands can only be initiated from within the editor.

2) Choose the function you wish to create with the

arrow keys. Press RETURN and you will be prompted to enter your code. Any previously entered code will be shown on the top line, but the decimal code for each character must be entered individually. For each code entered, press RETURN, and then enter the next. For instance, 27,88 would be entered as 27 (RETURN) 88 (RETURN). After all codes for a feature have been entered, press RETURN with no code. (To view the code only, do not enter a new code, just press RETURN to get back to the editor.) You will be returned to the EDIT menu with the pointer ON THE SAME FUNCTION YOU HAVE JUST CREATED. Use the Arrow keys to move to the next function.

Be very careful when entering your codes. Be sure you're on the right function. You do not have to enter a code for each function if your printer doesn't support that feature, but once entered by hitting RETURN, it's there. I have found no way of blanking out a code.

This is especially important as regards the three lines referring to 1/2 line (Up and Down). They control the subscript and superscript, and most of the authors of the printer drivers reported it didn't work and left it blank, putting subscripts and superscripts into a font. In experiments on my Prowriter, I have found that it also pertains to the double-column printing. If you leave it blank, it will format double-columns in your Print Preview (if requested), and print the same way. If you put coding in these lines, Print Preview will format in double columns, but the actual printing will be unpredictable. If you do not intend to use double column printing, you can use these lines for another feature, such as continuous Underlining, activated by SELECT/ARROWS UP and DOWN.

3) Save the file. Once you're satisfied with the functions you've created, you must save the file to use it in AW+. From the Editor, type S, then the drive number and filename. This will create two files, your data file and a machine language file. Do not use an extender on your data file name! The name you give to your data file will be the name you enter for your printer driver when you get ready to use it in AW+.

From the Editor, press R and follow the prompts to return to AW+. If the printer driver does not work as you have specified, follow the above procedure again and view each function to see if you have entered the codes correctly.

ON THE FRITZ

Hardware Tips from Bob Fritz



Q) I own a 520 ST and want to upgrade to 1MEG. I don't care about the Blitter or an internal clock. What I do want is the ability to later upgrade to 2.5 MEG for sure, possibly to 4 MEG, without losing the original upgrade. What upgrade would you recommend and why is that one better?

A) I have personally installed 2 of these type of upgrades, both being able to go from 1 meg all the way up to 4 meg depending on your budget. They both are touted as no solder for the 1 meg version and trace cutting for the 4 meg version. As for recommending one over the other I would have to recommend the one from Tech-specialties because of the way they pick up the data lines to access the extra ram over the one from E. Arthur Brown. That and the fact you can get an internal clock on the upgrade board as well.

Addresses

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Tech-specialties | E. Arthur Brown |
| 909 Hodgkins,Suite A | 3404 Pawnee Dr. |
| Houston, Texas 77032 | Alexandria, Mn 56308 |
| (713)590-3738 | (612)762-8847 |

Q) Is it possible to make a detachable keyboard for my 130XE? I think it can be done but a friend of my says I'm nuts. How hard would this be to do and what would be involved?

A) First off it would be possible but kind of hard and not very pretty when you were done as the XE does not have a keyboard processor like the ST. Which means you'd have to have a connecting cable that had 25 lines on it with a connector at each end. Not too many 25 line coiled cables available locally.

Q) My mouse keeps getting all kinds of junk on the rollers from the rubber ball. What's the best way to clean this stuff off? Is there any way to prevent this stuff from building up? I've used a mouse mat, but that just seemed to make it worse! Also, my mouse buttons stick once in a while. Replacing the mouse would cost over \$50! Is there any way I can get a cheaper replacement that's more reliable?

A) The best way to clean the rollers on the mouse is to use a cotton swab and isopropyl alcohol and a small finger nail file. First swab the alcohol on the rollers, making sure it soaks in good. Then take the nail file and carefully scrap the rollers side to side as they turn. Do each one then go back over them again with the swab and alcohol to make sure you got it all. As for mouse mats, I used to use one that had a teflon coating which greatly reduced the crud

that gets picked up off the fabric ones. I say used to because now I'm using a track ball modified to work with the STs so that you have a stationary mouse and the only thing that touches the ball is your hand...no need for a mouse mat and no need for the room on your desk that a mat takes up, no more moving the mouse from one icon to another only to run out of mat half way there. As an alternative, the track ball is \$20 cheaper than replacing the mouse also. Address for Track ball:

Zebra Systems
78-06 Jamaica Ave.
Woodhaven, N.Y. 11421
(718)-296-2385

p.s. they use Wico track balls so you know they're heavy duty.

8bit Horizons



In the entertainment area, Microdaft has just released two new games: Dropzone and Solar Star. Both games have superb graphics and sound and all the pulse-pounding action you'll be able to handle. In Dropzone, you must attempt to rescue your men from an alien planet and Microdaft says "There will be no arms for hostages this time!"

Solar Star is a spacey arcade-type game in which you need to recover as many crystals as possible from the playing grid—while the computer that guards the crystals tries to terminate your existence! If you're into fast action games with excellent graphics, don't miss these. (\$24.95 each)

Microdaft
19 Harbor Drive
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849 (201)663-0202

A number of new products are out from Alpha Systems. Your Atari Comes Alive is a "how-to" book and disk showing you ways to make and program light pens, data decoders, alarm systems and much more. The 150 page book gives an overview of all electronics and programming skills needed. (\$24.95)

Graphics Transformer is a powerful program allowing use of pictures from almost any 8bit graphics program, including Koala pics, ComputerEyes, PrintShop, Graphics Master and even pictures drawn by BASIC programs. What can you do with them? Well, pictures can be combined with other pictures (even of different formats), shrunk or enlarged, and converted from one format to another. For instance, you can take a digitized ComputerEyes picture and use it in a PrintShop poster! (\$22.95)

Alpha Systems
1012 Skyland Drive
Macedonia, OH 44056 (216)374-7469

Another "utility" which promises to give 8bit owners a lot of power and flexibility is Super Turbo from Irata Verlag. This hardware interface has a big price tag, but if it does what it claims, it's worth it. Here's just a few things Super Turbo does:

- 1) Allows use of SS and DS ST disk drives on your XL/XE (up to 800K storage!)
- 2) Transfers programs from 5-1/2" to 3-1/4" disks and vice versa, even in IBM format.
- 3) Makes backups of your copy protected disks—8bit, ST or IBM! You need two ST drives to make backups of ST disks; the interface doesn't let you swap using one drive.
- 4) Loads programs in 7 seconds and copies disks in 27 seconds flat.

The whole thing, according to Irata Verlag, is a computer in and of itself, which acts as an interface between your 8bit and ST drives. Super Turbo attaches to the last drive on your system, and comes with a cartridge attachment used for the fast disk loads. More info on this soon! (\$250.00)

Irata Verlag
1272 Potter Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80909 (303)596-0135

ST Horizons



Word Perfect is now in the stores! The 6 disk package comes with a user-expandable 115,000 word dictionary, thesaurus, on-line help, a font disk and printer disk supporting hundreds of printers and a manual that will take a couple days to read! This is THE wordprocessor for the serious writer. (\$295.00, see note below)

Word Perfect Corporation
288 West Center Street
Orem, Utah 84057

NOTE: Students interested in purchasing Word Perfect can receive a copy for \$99!! Write to the above address c/o EDUCATIONAL DEPT. and ask for a "student direct order form." This program is a steal at that price—you may even feel guilty about paying so little!

The first module of M/CADD, JIL-Comp is out. This 2D drafting module can be used separately or together with JIL-Mod, the 3D modeler. Together, as M-CADD, you can do 3D wire frame modeling and 2D drafting. You can make changes in the 3D model and have them automatically be reflected in the 2D model as well. Both modules are user configurable and M/CADD drawings can be exported to Easy-Draw, where they can then be added to business reports and other publications. (JIL-Comp \$299.95)

MiGraph, Inc.
720 South 333rd Street
Federal Way, WA 98003 (206)838-4677

New World Software has just release a program for small and medium sized retail and wholesale businesses. Multi-Manager is a powerful menu-based package that will keep track of everything necessary to running your business. At the main menu, your choices are Invoice Manager, Vendor Manager, Inventory Manager, System Manager, Payroll Manager, Extended Manager, Super Manager and Archive Manager. Quite a lot to this program! Can it do reports? Sure--Sales Reports, Employee Reports, Employee Payroll Reports, High Security Inventory List (containing wholesale costs), Transfer Reports, Layaways Reports, Returns Reports, Vendor Invoice Reports, Re-Order Lists, Hot Mover Lists, and more. The entire system can be password protected in part or in whole for security of information. Two DS drives or one DS drive and a hard drive required. (\$299.95)

New World Software
1654 San Tomas Aquino Road
San Jose, CA 95130 (408)866-5003

It looks like Broderbund has finally come around! The ST Director Series includes Art Director and Film Director. Art Director is a full-featured paint program using pull-down menus and icons. Up to 16 canvases at one time may be in use, and two of them can be on-screen at the same time. Special features include Rescale, Stretch, Distort, Bend, Bulge, Spin, Perspective, Scroll, and Scrape. Film Director is a cell-animation program designed to use Art Director files. This program comes with a film library of animated sequences and a library of music and sound effects that you can add to your own animations. "Movies" made with Film Director can be used by friends who don't own this software. (\$79.95 both)

Print Shop is on its way! The ST version gives you "complete graphic layout flexibility without restrictive pre-defined templates." Comes with over 150 graphic designs, fonts and borders. (\$49.95)

The last item I'll mention from Broderbund is a personal favorite of mine and one of the things I truly miss from my 8bit days—Karateka! In this "movie-like" game, you are a young karate master who must rescue your beloved princess from the evil warlord Akuma. The fighting is very realistic and the graphics are smoothly animated for a stunning effect. (\$34.95)

Broderbund Software, Inc.
17 Paul Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903-2101 (415)479-1700

In the spreadsheet market, ISD Marketing has come out with Masterplan, a GEM-based Lotus workalike designed for the novice spreadsheet user. Most of its commands are identical to Lotus 1-2-3 version 1A, but Masterplan has added a friendly interface. The program will read and write Lotus and VIP Profession data files, while using the ST's graphics capabilities for color business presentation graphics. Some of the features include mouse or keyboard operation, use of icons, sparse matrix for memory conservation, an UNDO feature, a giant 8192 x 256 grid, multiple windows and hard disk support. Masterplan will also save files compatible with Degas and Publishing Partner. (\$129.95)

ISD Marketing, Inc.
2651 John Street, Unit 3
Markham, Ontario, Canada L3R 2W5
(416)479-1880

ST Alpha-Bytes from Mission Softs is an educational package for children ages 2 to 6+. The program is GEM-based with over 80 different graphics and sound. Designed to be a fun and "game-like" way for

children to learn their alphabet, ST Alpha-Bytes features sequential and random alphabet review and quizzing of upper and lower case letters, allows for saving and printing of quiz score sheets and supports color or monochrome monitors. As children's educational software should be, this disk is unprotected, allowing for safe backup by the parent! Also comes with a coloring poster and stickers. (\$29.95)

Mission Softs
P.O. Box 3916
Seal Beach, CA 90740 (213)439-6281

M.A.M. on the Move

Bill & Pattie Rayl

In the October issue of the Michigan Atari Magazine, John Nagy stated MAM may be moving to Ann Arbor. He also mentioned we were its "prospective" new editors. Well, barring any major catastrophes of Biblical proportions, MAM is definitely on the move and the December issue will be published in Ann Arbor.

Now, for a little background. A few month's ago, John Nagy approached us and said MAM was beginning to take more time than he had available. This, along with a lack of people willing to help him in the Lansing area, prompted his search for someone willing to "take it over." We were interested and wanted to hear more.

During the Detroit Atari MAGIC Show, we met with John and discussed the idea in more detail, and it was at this meeting the move became a very good possibility.

Since that time, we have contacted officers of all groups currently in MAM and some who aren't, trying to learn what they like and dislike about the magazine and what they would like to see change or stay the same. So far, the response has been very good, and we've heard some legitimate complaints and some good ideas from these groups. One of the things we would like to do is keep this open communication going—more on that later.

The most often heard complaint was the magazine arrived too late in the month. This is partly because John Nagy has not been able to get the help he needs to get the magazine out on time. We have definitely solved that problem, with three people willing to devote 10+ hours per week to the mag's production. Deadline for submissions to the magazine will be the 17th of each month (firm!), giving us time to put it all together, print it and mail

before the month's end. According to the U.S. Post Office, no one should have to wait more than 10 days to receive a copy once it's sent. Taking the Post Office at their word, this means participating groups should get their copies in the first week of each month!

The second largest complaint was the type is too small for easy reading. This is due to the fact the current copy is reduced 65 percent to fit on the small format page. To solve this problem, and because our prospective printer gave us an hour's worth of other reasons, the magazine will be going to 8-1/2 x 11 format. We will also be using a laser printer with Publishing Partner to produce our master pages. If you haven't seen the output from Publishing Partner and a laser printer, pick up a copy of ST World or wait for the December MAM!

Some groups expressed dislike in getting advertising for the magazine. From here on in, we will do all the ad-getting. If you know of any Atari dealers in your area that do not advertise, we'd like to hear about them, of course! But, individual clubs no longer will need to deal with securing ads.

Now, you're all saying "what's it gonna cost?" right? Surprise—participating groups will still receive MAM for 80 cents an issue. For that 80 cents, each member will receive a 36 page, 8-1/2 x 11, glossy cover magazine (cover price will be \$2 instead of the "still \$1.50") delivered to his/her mailbox. Non-participating groups and individuals can subscribe to MAM for \$18 a year.

Can you beat that deal? Well, we can! On top of paying the same rate, member clubs (and individual members of each club) will also be able to have copy printed on our laser printer for only 60 cents per page (plus postage, where applicable). The going rate for laser printing is 75 cents to 2 dollars per page. Non-members of MAM may still get printing done, but for a higher price!

Another benefit we offer, thanks to UofM, is the Merit Network. Via Merit, many of the clubs around Michigan can call our bulletin board (The Treasure CheST (313)439-2816 3/12/2400 baud) for free and upload their submissions. We will be getting information on how to do this, along with local Merit numbers, to all participating groups. The BBS will also be used as a forum for people to discuss or complain about the magazine, suggest changes, or just to leave a word of praise. We guarantee your responses will be heard (read) and they will make a difference.

We will be meeting with most of the current

participating groups in the next two months to discuss these things in detail and to set up some lines of communication.

Other Michigan user groups are also being approached with an offer to join MAM, with many favorable responses so far. If all goes well, MAM will have over 10 participating groups with a press run of 1500 issues per month!

John Nagy has, in our opinion, done an excellent job with the Michigan Atari Magazine. We know we can do as good, and hope to do even better! John isn't going to disappear into the wood work, though. You'll still be seeing his name on a number of articles.

So, as you can see, MAM is on the move--in more ways than one!



How to Join

In Person: Come to a meeting! WAUG! meets the second Tuesday of each month from 7:30 to 10 pm. Meetings are held in Room 2228 of the University of Michigan School of Education, located on the corner of South and East University in Ann Arbor (see map below).

By Mail: Send a check for \$10, payable to Bob Carlini (our Treasurer), to the WAUG! mailing address. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number.

List of Future WAUG! Activities

Dec. 8: MIDI Maze Fun Night
Jan. 12: Telecommunications
Feb. 9: Games Night
Mar. 8: Business Applications
Apr. 12: Music
May 10: "Hack and Slash"
Jun. 14: Elections/Flea Market
No meetings held in July and August

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How to Contact WAUG!

Clear Thinking: (313)761-2444 (300/1200 baud)
Molin's Den: (313)420-0407 (300/1200 baud)
Treasure CheST: (313)439-2816 (300/1200/2400 baud)
The Outpost: (313)449-8544 (300/1200/2400 baud)

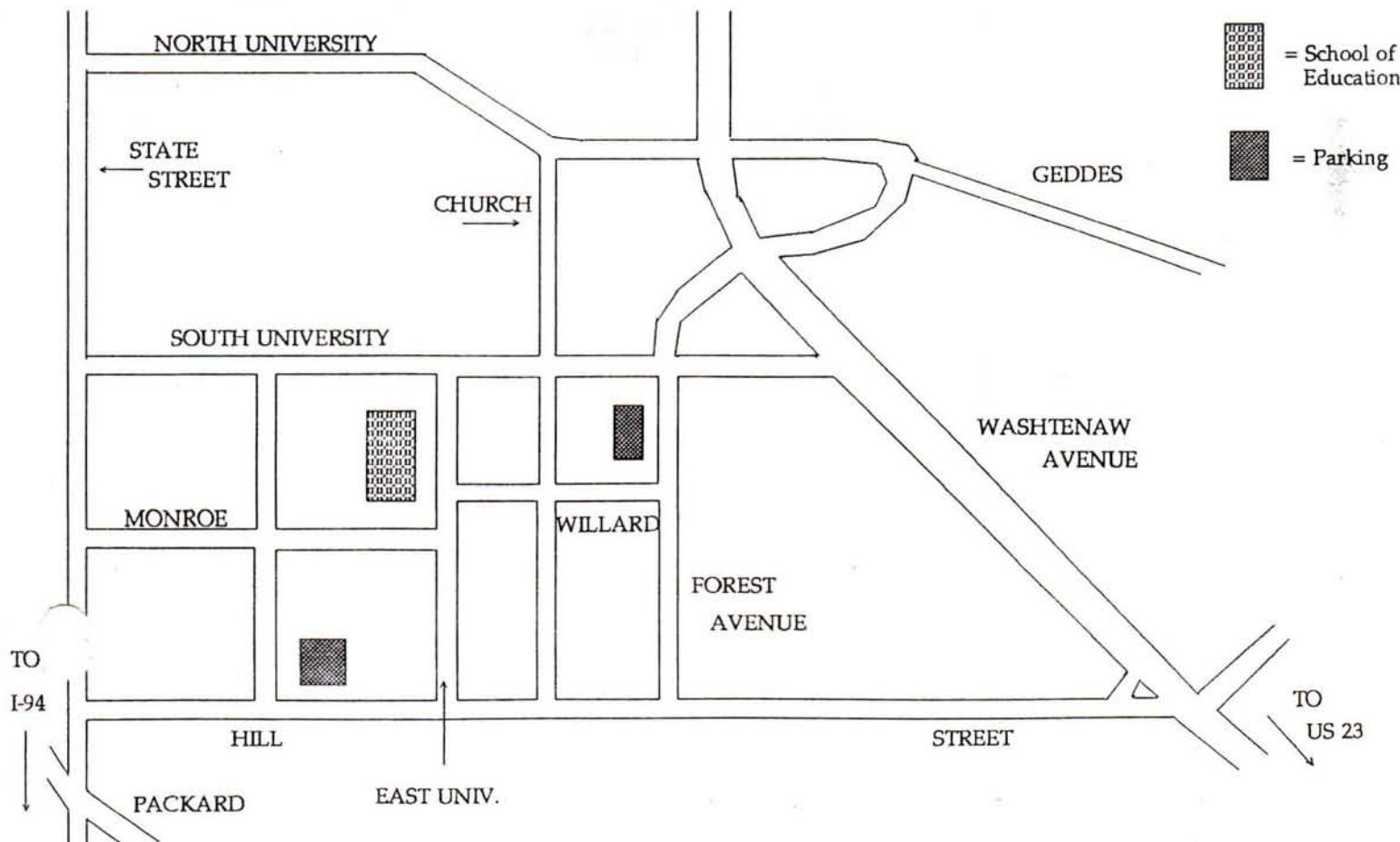
BY MAIL: WAUG!
3487 Braeburn Circle
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Benefits of WAUG! Membership

WAUG! members receive the club newsletter, keeping them informed about what's going on in WAUG! and the whole Atari community. Members also have access to the 8bit and ST disk libraries. These disks are jam-packed with useful and entertaining public domain software. Members pay the special club rate of \$2 for 8bit and \$3 for ST disks, and disks may be purchased in person or by mail.

The most important benefit you receive is the help and support from (and interaction with) other Atari owners. If you're having a problem, need advice about a software package, or whatever, your fellow WAUG! members can and will help. That's what a user group is all about--helping each other get the most from their computing.

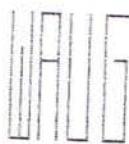
Map to University of Michigan School of Education



"If it wants to dream, we could give it some vague, unstructured



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